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SECURITY INFORMATION

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German Democratic Republic

EAST GERMAN BEARING FACTORIES

1. The VEB (people-owned) Rommeberg Roller-Bearing Factory, Gera/Thuringen, produces roller bearings 180 - 500 mm in diameter and repairs roller bearings. Employees: About 200 workers and 25 office employees. Receives raw materials from Maxhuetten and Brand-Erbisdorf. Products go to DHZ (German Trade Center), Leipzig.
2. VEB Frau-Reuth Roller-Bearing Factory, Werdau/Thuringen
Products: Ball bearings, roller bearings, special bearings. Employees: 1,790 workers, 160 office employees. Receives raw materials from Maxhuetten and Hennigsdorf. Products go to DHZ Machinery and Vehicles, Leipzig.
3. SAG (Soviet Corporation) Heller, Schweina/Thuringen (under SAG Avtovelo). Products: Balls for all types of bearings. Products go to all East German ball-bearing factories. Employees: 184 workers, 18 office employees. Obtains raw materials from Maxhuetten, Hennigsdorf, and to a small degree from the USSR.
4. Zella-Mehlis Ball-Bearing Factory (under SAG Avtovelo). Products: Very small ball bearings, and ball and roller bearings up to 62 mm in diameter. Employees: 225 workers, 22 office employees. Obtains raw materials from Maxhuetten, Riesa, Brand-Erbisdorf, and Hennigsdorf, and to a lesser extent from the USSR.
Brass is supplied by Frau-Reuth, Liebenstein, Bad; sheet by the Thale Rolling Mill; and steel balls by SAG Heller. Products go mainly to DKF Leipzig, but also to the Jena Bearing Factory (Kreisel-lagerfabrik).
5. DKF (German Ball-Bearing Factory), Leipzig (under SAG Avtovelo).
Products: Deep-groove type ~~radial~~ radial ball bearings, roller bearings, self-aligning ball and roller bearings, pin bearings, thrust bearings, tapered roller bearings, special rollers, and parts, e.g., rollers, pins, etc. Production of single-row self-aligning roller bearings is planned for 1952, provided samples can be obtained from West Germany. Employees: 2,850 workers, 150 office employees. Raw material sources are the same as those for Zella-Mehlis. Products go to: BMW (Bavarian Motor Works) Eisenach, Krupp-Gruson Magdeburg, Labau, Babelsberg, Goerlitz and Annendorf railroad-car factories, Stassfurt Machine Factory, Wismuth A.G., Chemnitz, Magdeburg Machine-Tool Factory, Niles Works in Weissensee, and Pittler in Leipzig.
6. VEB Drive-Shaft and Roller-Bearing Factory, Stadttilm/Thuringen. Products: Drive shafts, parts for drive shafts, tapered roller bearings for British and US vehicles. Employees: 185 workers, 15 office employees. Obtains raw materials from Maxhuetten and Riesa. Products go to DHZ, IFA (Federation of People-Owned Enterprises for Vehicle Production), and the Soviets.
The factory has a special laboratory, and all experiments are being photographed.
Plant is waiting for samples from West Germany for new products. The factory is now IFA; is expected to go into SAG Avtovelo ownership in 1952.

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